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**U.S. House of Representatives**

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

364 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

<http://veterans.house.gov>

April 21, 2023

The Honorable Michael J. Missal  
 Inspector General  
 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
 810 Vermont Avenue, NW  
 Washington, DC 20420

Dear Inspector General Missal:

The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs has received concerning information regarding a Tomah VA Medical Center (VAMC) neurologist who may have provided veterans with incomplete compensation and pension (C&P) exams between 2002 and 2020.

The Department has already substantiated, in part, allegations that some veterans did not receive sufficient C&P exams conducted by Dr. Mary Jo Lanska, a provider employed by the Tomah VAMC.<sup>1</sup> During a briefing on April 19, 2023, VA officials confirmed that after an initial review of 72 C&P exams completed by Dr. Lanska, 22 exams were incomplete, and the impacted veterans may be eligible for a re-examination.

Inspector General Missal, these are troublesome findings. An incomplete disability exam can result in a veteran being denied, or losing entitlement to, their earned benefits. Therefore, I request your office conduct a thorough and detailed investigation of the above allegations and provide your findings to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Furthermore, it is unacceptable that VA identified these errors almost three years after the provider stopped completing C&P exams, and only after these concerns were brought forward publicly. We question whether these deficiencies are limited to the Tomah VAMC neurologist, or whether these findings indicate a possible systemic failure in the VA's ability to provide veterans with adequate traumatic brain injury (TBI) disability exams and conduct effective quality review of such exams.

We therefore ask that you also conduct a broader review of the accuracy and sufficiency of TBI disability exams and medical opinions completed by VA providers and contracted examiners.

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<sup>1</sup> [Veterans Could Get Second Look On Neurology C&P Exams | VA Tomah Health Care | Veterans Affairs](#)

The Honorable Michael J. Missal

April 21, 2023

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Sincerely,



**MIKE BOST**

Chairman



**MORGAN LUTTRELL**

Chairman

Subcommittee on Disability Assistance  
And Memorial Affairs



**DERRICK VAN ORDEN**

Chairman

Subcommittee on  
Economic Opportunity

cc:

The Honorable Mark Takano, Ranking Member

The Honorable Chris Pappas, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and  
Memorial Affairs

The Honorable Mike Levin, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity